

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating refractory depression characterized by dissociation, comprising identifying a patient having refractory depression characterized by dissociation, administering to a said patient in need thereof an effective dissociation reversing amount of ~~an~~ a kappa receptor opiate antagonist or ~~an~~ an opiate antagonist having kappa receptor opiate antagonist activity or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and an effective depression reversing amount of an antidepressant or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the opiate antagonist is an opiate antagonist having a pentacyclic nucleus.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the opiate antagonist is selected from the group consisting of nalmefene, naloxone, naltrexone, nalbuphine, thebaine, and combinations thereof.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the opiate antagonist is selected from the group consisting of kappa opiate antagonists, and combinations thereof.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is oral administration.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the effective dissociation reversing amount comprises an initial dosage of Nalmefene in the amount of about 50 mgs. b.i.d. for about three days, followed by a dosage of about 100 mgs. b.i.d. for about four days, followed by a dosage of about 150 mgs. b.i.d. for about one week, followed

by a dosage of about 200 mgs. b.i.d. thereafter until the patient has achieved a dissociation-free state.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the opiate antagonist or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the carrier is selected from the group consisting of water, milk, fruit juice and sweetened beverage.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antidepressant or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antidepressant is selected from the group consisting essentially of monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor, tricyclic antidepressant, serotonin reuptake inhibitor, selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), aminoketones, serotonin antagonists, dopamine reuptake inhibitors, dual reuptake inhibitors, norepinephrine enhancers, serotonin activity enhancers, dopamine activity enhancers, and combinations thereof.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the antidepressant is selected from the group consisting essentially of amitriptyline, lofepramine, bupropion, citalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, imipramine, paroxetine, sertraline, venlafaxine, nefazodone, nortriptyline, mirtazapine, reboxetine, SAM-E and combinations thereof.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the effective depression reversing amount comprises an initial dosage of Bupropion SR in the amount of about 100 mgs. to about 300 mgs.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the effective depression reversing amount comprises a dosage of Venlafaxine in the amount of about 75 mgs. per day to about 375 mgs. one time daily.

14. (Currently amended) A method for treating refractory depression characterized by dissociation comprising identifying a patient with refractory depression characterized by dissociation, and administering to a said patient in need thereof:

(a) an antidepressant; and

(b) an effective dissociation reversing amount of ~~an~~ a kappa receptor opiate antagonist or an opiate antagonist having kappa receptor opiate antagonist activity.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the opiate antagonist is an opiate antagonist having a pentacyclic nucleus.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the opiate antagonist is selected from the group consisting of nalmefene, naloxone, naltrexone, nalbuphine, thebaine, and combinations thereof.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the antidepressant is selected from the group consisting essentially of monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor, tricyclic antidepressant, serotonin reuptake inhibitor, selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), aminoketones, serotonin antagonists, dopamine reuptake inhibitors, dual reuptake inhibitors, norepinephrine enhancers, serotonin activity enhancers, dopamine activity enhancers, and combinations thereof.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the antidepressant is selected from the group consisting essentially of amitriptyline,

lofepramine, bupropion, citalopram, fluoxetine, fluvoxamine, imipramine, paroxetine, sertraline, venlafaxine, nefazodone, nortriptyline, mirtazapine, reboxetine, SAM-E and combinations thereof.

19. (Currently amended) A method of treating refractory depression characterized by dissociation comprising identifying a patient having refractory depression characterized by dissociation administering to a said patient in need thereof an effective dissociation reversing amount of at least one kappa receptor opiate antagonist or an opiate antagonist having kappa receptor antagonist activity; evaluating said patient for a response to said opiate antagonist; and reassessing said patient for depression.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 19 wherein the step of evaluating said patient for a response to said opiate antagonist further comprises the step of evaluating the patient with the Glover Numbing Scale.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 19 wherein the step of evaluating said patient for a response to said opiate antagonist further comprises the step of evaluating said patient for responses selected from the group consisting essentially of numb, hollow, lack of feeling, and combinations thereof.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19 wherein the step reassessing said patient for depression further comprises the step of evaluating the patient with the Beck Depression Inventory.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 further comprising the step of administering at least one antidepressant to said patient after said step of reassessing said patient for depression.